

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1502

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October 4, 2017

Ms. Elaine Chao, Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao,

Re: Accelerating Regional Mobility: I-80/I-380 Systems Interchange

I am writing to you in support of the Iowa Department of Transportation's (DOT) application to the United States DOT's Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program. The I-80/I-380 system interchange sits at a vital location in my district for the movement of freight and individual travel. I have been told that with an INFRA award, the Iowa DOT will be able to accelerate the current construction program by up to two years, which will help improve roadway safety, reduce travel delays and roadway capacity concerns, and improve travel reliability in the area.

This project is a reconstruction of the interchange. I understand that it modernizes and adds capacity by replacing the existing cloverleaf interchange with higher speed directional ramps. The project also widens I-80 to eight lanes and I-380/US 218 to six lanes.

In addition to its role serving regional travel, this interchange is critical to improving freight travel throughout the region. Interstate 80 is a major corridor for freight movement for the nation, and I-380 is key in connecting much of eastern Iowa to the wider national interstate system. I have been told that this critical project will increase capacity and improve operations within the region.

I support Iowa DOT's application for this project.

Sincerely,



Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress